REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is made to cancel claims elected in the parent application, U.S. Patent Application No. 09/833,661. An action on the merits is requested at the earliest opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: <u>August 4, 20</u>03—

Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D. Registration No. 41,289

VENABLE LLP P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 962-4800 Telefax: (202) 962-8300

MAS/trl DC2-473058